

COLORED AMERICANS, THESE PROBLEMS ARE OURS!

By Arthur C. Parker  
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Marblehead, Mass., residents witnessed the spectacle of a flaming K.K.K. cross on their native hills this week. The Klan, the invisible empire, the 200% Americans who slink around in the dark of night robed and hooded in white sheets, hope to terrorize the country side by burning crosses and lumbering thru grotesque pagan dances.

Childish horseplay like burning crosses is only the harmless side of these fanatic Americans. We remember them as the brutes who sneak up on sleeping households and tear defenceless women and children from their beds to whip, tar and feather, or lynch them. This organization of un-American citizens who brazenly announce as their purpose the subjugation and terrorization of Jews, Catholics and colored citizens, have done more than any other element in our society to make it nearly impossible to solve our racial and religious problems. This thing we thought stamped out again appears even here in the northern strongholds of liberality, tolerance and group freedom! Gird yourselves, citizens, and strangle the odious monster in its infancy!

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In Mexico an American rancher by the name of Edward Miller shot and killed one Mexican working man and seriously wounded another.

Why? Just because---guess! Humph! He thought they were laughing at him. Here was a white man in a land owned and controlled by colored people. He imagined two members of the predominate group were making fun of him, having a joke at his expense. He considered that just cause to shoot them down like dogs. Well, the police intervened just in time to save him from being lynched by an irate crowd of Mexican citizens.

When the shoe is placed on the other foot and American whites are the unappreciative butts of jokes they react quite differently than do the long suffering millions of colored Americans who for years have been the collective scapegoat and comedian to sate white America's cruel sense of humor.

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The Wickersham Committee has filed another report, this time on United States law and lawlessness. A blanket indictment against police forces of the country as a general failure was handed down. In its eighth report to the president the commission charged that with very few exceptions units in the system were shot through with graft, incompetence and corruption and too often under the direct control of dishonest politicians.

This, I believe, is the first time the Wickersham Commission has ever unanimously agreed on any decision. We agree with them. We know our system of society, having on one side, capitalism,

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on the other, ragged individualism, in one section mansions, lawns, health and wealth, in the other section tenements, slums, garbage, hunger, disease and death, essentially has in it as a component party of its rotten structure, the specter of crime - theft, prostitution, and murder.

The Commission unanimously and exclusively mentions one city in the United States as being free from crime and lawlessness. That city is Milwaukee, which has a Socialist Party administration.

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The United Gas Improvement Corporation earnings increased this past year despite hard times. Their net earnings, after federal taxes, depreciation, subsidiary dividends and minority interests were deducted amounted to the startling sum of \$38,200,401. Compared with their net earnings, after charges, the previous year, of \$35,694,231, it shows an increase in collected revenue of \$2,606,170.

Working people, white and colored, who have for years allowed themselves to be unjustly taxed 50 cents a month metercharge or in other words, payed regularly for the privilege of buying gas have made it possible for the parasitic corporation to heap up profit on profits from the destitution and hand-to-mouth existence of many gas consumers.

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In Tampa, Florida, a white man was arrested and convicted of inciting colored persons in this section to gain control of the government and industries by means of the ballot box.

Our poor, deluded, ignorant officials of Florida obviously have never heard of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States.

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The \$24,000,000,000 worth of railroads and railroad business in the U.S. is before the Interstate Commerce Commission in Washington today.

Here is another group of giant trusts who owe their top heavy wealth to a complete monopoly of the means of transportation. Now motor transports and passenger buses that tend to give the much imposed upon public more for money are an ever growing threat to this present monopoly.

We remember that during the war, the railroads because of their competitive greed for profit, were unable to centralize their management and cooperate to move the nation's war supplies. The Government took over all railroads and competently did the job the corporation could not do.

Now, at a time when all industries are lowering their prices for service and commodities the railroad trusts are clamoring to the government for an increased freight and passenger rate. They should be taken over and managed by the Government for the public good.

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Colored Americans, these problems are yours! Organize! Plan! Cooperate!  
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